

Message Text

SECRET

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13

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O R 150810Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1063

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

USINT ALGIERS

S E C R E T TRIPOLI 0316

EXDIS

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD AND DAMASCUS

BRUSSELS FOR UNDER SECRETARY DONALDSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: ARAB OIL EMBARGO TALKS IN TRIPOLI

1. CHARGE WAS BRIEFED BY YOUNG AND FRIENDLY ARAB EMIRATES CHARGE RUMAYHI ON ARAB OIL EMBARGO TALKS IN TRIPOLI MARCH 13. SAUDI REP YAMANI MADE CASE FOR LIFTING EMBARGO, APPARENTLY MAINLY FOR BENEFIT OF LIBYA WHICH SPOKE FOR HOLDING LINE ON EMBARGO UNTIL SYRIA HAD GAINS TO SHOW IN ISRAELI-OCCUPIED AREA. SYRIAN REP DID NOT SEEM TO TAKE LEADING ROLE IN DEBATE. SPECIAL EMISSARY FROM DAMASCUS, ABDUL GHANI QANNUT, WHO ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI DAY BEFORE OIL MEETING, CAME HERE ON OTHER BUSINESS CONNECTED WITH LIBYAN SUBSIDY PAYMENTS, RUMAYHI SAID.

2. ALGERIAN AND EMIRATES MINISTERS PRESENTED ARGUMENT FOR PRE-SECRET

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SERVING ARAB UNITY. THEY THOUGHT SOME FORMULA SHOULD BE FOUND

WHICH COULD PERMIT ALL MEMBERS TO JOIN THE MAJORITY. TIME RAN OUT ON MINISTERS, HOWEVER, AND THEY HAD TO ADJOURN BEFORE AGREEMENT WAS REACHED. YAMANI ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI LATE FOR MEETING WHICH CUT DOWN TIME FOR PERSUASION. RUMAYHI THOUGHT ISSUE COULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN SETTLED IF THIS HAD NOT HAPPENED, BUT DELAY COULD HAVE BEEN SOME SORT OF TACTIC ON YAMANI'S PART.

3. ALTHOUGH NOTHING WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN SIGNED AND SEALED FOR DELIVERY AT SUNDAY'S VIENNA MEETING, RUMAYHI STRONGLY BELIEVED LIBYA WOULD NOT RPT NOT BLOCK UNANIMITY ON LIFTING EMBARGO. IN DEFERENCE TO QADHAFI'S REPUTATION AS A "REVOLUTIONARY", LIBYA, HE THOUGHT, WOULD EXPRESS RESERVATIONS BUT GO ALONG WITH OTHERS ANYWAY. RUMAYHI SAID KING FAISAL WAS QUITE SUCCESSFUL IN OPENING YOUNG QADHAFI'S EYES TO REALITIES WHEN TWO MET IN SAUDI ARABIA BEFORE LAHORE ISLAMIC SUMMIT. KING WAS SAID TO HAVE EXPLAINED SAD STORY OF HOW MANY TIMES IN PAST FORTY YEARS ARABS HAVE UNWISELY PASSED UP OPPORTUNITIES FOR SETTLEMENT ON PALESTINE, ONLY TO LOSE MORE GROUND AT EACH CRISIS.
STEIN

SECRET

NNN

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